

A Diary for Primrose

by

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November 25, 2021

Several weeks had gone by since my wife Andrea had passed away and I had just received her ashes at my UPS box in Show Low, Arizona. I drove down to

Show Low from my RV on my two acres of land in St. John's, Arizona to retrieve the ashes. The ashes came in a rather large box and were marked with stickers that read "human remains" and "biohazard".

It was eerie having my late wife in a box next to me on the passenger front seat of my 2006 Pontiac G6 sedan and I cried on and off on the way home. When I pulled on to my property, I still had a little time before sundown, so I picked a spot towards the edge of one of my acres of land to assemble a few solid concrete blocks to make a simple grave site for Andrea. I then gathered a few mementos of hers, sunglasses, our wedding glass with our names on it, a bracelet she often wore and a photo of her and decorated the stones. I then opened the ash container and poured them around the stones and scattered some in the field.

I said a prayer to the wind and sent them out to Andrea. I was crying so deeply and was so very sad. The sky was very beautiful that evening with a wonderful blend of reds and oranges scattered across twisted clouds. The sun set and darkness was now setting in on my land. I went back inside of my RV and spent some time on my phone and found an app called Afterglow.

It was a positive app for mental health or religion, even just to make some

new friends. I signed it, it seemed like something low-key that I could get into.

I was going through the app's feed and saw prayer requests and good thoughts sent out to the world. The app also had groups. I sent friend requests to a few guys and ladies that seemed interesting.

December 1st, 2021

A week had gone by since I had signed up on that app, and I was enjoying my time on it. I was posting bible verses that gave me peace.

I came across a young woman named Megan that was cute from her profile photo.

I had Christmas lights on in my RV, relaxing music was blasting and I was smoking some of the best weed. I started messaging Megan and we really connected. I would come to find out that she lived in Maine, formally worked at Walmart and she loved chickens, of which she had four chickens at that time. Megan was 24 and her birthday was coming up on Christmas eve. Since she was raised as a Jehovah Witness, she never had her birthday celebrated.

December 8th, 2021

I formally asked Megan out to be my girlfriend. As the weeks passed, I felt better each day as I continued to get over Andrea's passing.

Kristina and I made plans for her to fly out to me in Arizona. She left Maine on the 16th and arrived at the Phoenix, Arizona airport by 5am on the 17th.

December 17, 2021

I drove down to the airport, and I couldn't find the passenger car parking lot after several laps around and I started having a panic attack, so I parked in the "oversized vehicle" lot. I called the airport when I got settled inside to ask if they would tow my car and the girl said no.

I waited patiently for a few hours.

Kristina had sent me a few photos of her waiting at the airport and when she got on the planes. Kristina was this pretty blonde hair girl with blue eyes and a small body. This one photo she sent to me, I could see how very small her legs were. I couldn't wait until she was in my arms.

Kristina had arrived and she had trouble figuring out what gate I was waiting at. She was texting me and was on the phone with me as she came through the correct gate after about fifteen minutes. Finally, we locked eyes and I took her in my arms and we kissed.

I carried her suitcase and bags and wrapped my arm around her as we headed out of the airport towards the parking lot.

My midnight blue colored Pontiac G6 was shining in the light of the morning. I unlocked the doors and opened the passenger door for Kristina, placed her items in the trunk and I jumped into the driver's seat and proceeded to the self-pay tollbooth. It was exactly \$20 for the hours that I was in the airport.

The sun was up; we were hungry! I looked for what was in the Phoenix area for breakfast and spotted a Waffle House. This was the first time that Kristina ever ate at a Waffle House and is one of my favorite places to eat breakfast. After breakfast we headed east on highway 10 towards Tucson and we had a great chat and cuddled along the way. I got on to route 77 and headed north into Salt River Canyon. It's a very beautiful and scenic drive. Shortly after the rest area pull off area, there is an old western jail cell and then you start heading up a hill. It was at this area where I pulled off the road. We both exited the car in this small pull off area and we took a few nice photos. It was at this place of peace and beauty where I asked Kristina to marry me and she said yes. I had bought her a nice engagement ring in her size a week earlier in Show Low. We kissed and enjoyed the moment then got back into the car and continued to Show Low where we had lunch.

We arrived at my land and RV just before nightfall. I brought Kristina's suitcase and bags into the RV and then we went outside and I showed her Andrea's makeshift grave. I spoke to Andrea and introduced Kristina to her while we stood there.

Afterwards we went back inside the RV and enjoyed the evening and our first night sleeping together in our bed.

The next morning, we went to town and had breakfast at the little café. When we were done, the thrift store across the street was opening so we went there and bought a bunch of candles and some other items.

December 20th, 2021

We went down to Show Low to retrieve my mail and to do some shopping. I had received a check from the government of \$255, which was the death payout for Andrea; is that what we are really valued at? We went to see my friend at the town hall for information on the marriage license. Since COVID restrictions were still in place in St. John's and the judge was currently still not holding any marriage ceremonies. We were told to call the town of Snowflake and sure enough, they were ready to do those again.

I deposited the check in the bank, and it cleared at midnight.

December 21, 2021

We went to Show Low to buy Kristina's wedding dress, shoes, hat and wedding rings. I also bought myself a new pair of jeans and shirt too for the wedding. Kristina's ring was 9kt 4.00g silver.

We paid \$83 for our wedding license and had Dominoe's Pizza for dinner.

Kristina found out from her parents that one of her chickens laid an oval, creamy white colored egg.

December 22nd, 2021

It's wedding day! We got married at 12pm at the justice hall in Snowflake.

Two workers were our witnesses and the judge said that it was his first wedding ceremony since COVID began and that he was happy for us.

Afterwards, we went across the street to Circle K and one of our wedding witnesses saw Kristina and said, "Hello Mrs. Lombardi", or "There's Mrs. Lombardi". We couldn't remember afterwards how she said it because we were both surprised to see her there and for Kristina to be called out by her new last name. I bought Kristina a bouquet of flowers and she loved them. I love her so much and it's an honor to be her husband and protector. She makes me so happy and cares about me. This is how true love feels. We'll be together forever!

December 23rd, 2021

Kristina had a little cough when we woke up so she took some cough medicine. We later looked at the medicine bottle and realized that it was nighttime medicine, and it knocked her out.

I brought her up town to show her how the water dispenser worked and we got home by 11am, she passed out by 11:10am.

December 24th, 2021

It's Kristina's 24th birthday! We celebrated by getting dinner, cake and presents. Special day.

December 25th, 2021

We went to the Christian church up town and we both liked it. The pastor was really nice. It was a good day to celebrate Jesus!

December 27th, 2021

We reached out to the pastor for some help in buying propane for the heater and he gave us \$10 and 3 ½ lbs. We found out that our tank wasn't empty, that the valve just needed to be tapped.

December 29th, 2021

We're broke but money is coming on the 31st but we have no way to Walmart to get the money because the car's gas is almost gone. My money will be here on Monday the 3rd but I really wanted to take us out for Chinese lunch/dinner on New Years Day. There's three cold days coming through the weekend to Monday. We're conserving water but we have forty 16oz bottles left to drink and two gallons. Lots of food! We'll be OK! God is good!

December 30th, 2021

I listed my two acres in St. John's for sale and told Bill of the listing again since he had paid 3k before he gave it back to me. I want a clean start out of this area for Kristina and me. We deserve that.

February 24th, 2022

We arrived at Motel 6 in Holbrook, Arizona just before 2am. I got pulled over by the Holbrook police for supposedly unsafe lane change when no one else was on the road and he gave me five days to fix my one bad tire and alignment.

February 25th, 2022

We mailed out the form and marriage certificate so Kristina can be a Lombardi finally. We got pizza at Little Caesar's and went to the Sheriff's office to clarify our warning from the night before. On the way back to the motel, we were followed by the police. They stopped me in the motel parking lot, and we know we're being tracked since California. The police had me turn my headlights on, I didn't get a ticket, but the light has been on and off working for months. I never shut off the lights and two hours later I realized the battery was dead.

Kristina was upset. Me too. We're leaving for New Mexico.

February 26th, 2022

I keep telling Kristina to trust me, her husband, and I think she is starting to believe me. The first guy I asked for a jump helped us and the car engine turned right over.

We went for a nice walk and a native fell on the sidewalk! Silly drunk Indians!

March 6th, 2022

Last night at Motel 6. It's been a productive two weeks here but we're moving to two new plots of land in New Mexico. I'm excited on the move and Kristina has had her medicine now for several days but not too keen on being in a tent until we get a RV or cabin, but I trust God will provide what we need.

The weather isn't quite perfect yet. We sold the Pontiac G6 while at the motel and bought a Mini Cooper – it's awesome!

March 13th, 2022

Our time at Motel 6 ends on the 16th and we may stay five days more, maybe not. Going back to the wilds will be different but we ordered a cabin and I will build a small cabin in between its arrival.

We have \$800 plus the man making payments on my St. John's land (Lonnie) will send his payment soon. I have my new bank set up in New Mexico so just need to get a UPS box and switch my license too. We made one trip to the storage bin in California and may need to do one or two more trips to retrieve everything.

March 30th, 2022

We returned to Motel 6 on March 30th. New Mexico was a total failure! Every time we set up a tent a dust storm, rain or combo of both along with cold weather would hit us. We had to bail out back to a motel.

April 15th, 2022

We were going to see about a house in Missouri through this company. While doing my planning, I called my friend John from Why, AZ who has been living in Missouri since late 2019. John said we should go to his house in Fulton, Missouri first because there was this old guy Gordon selling off his land and homes deeds. Kristina and I spent a few days at John's place, and his wife Debbie wasn't friendly. I only met her a few times in Arizona and she just seemed hollow.

We met Gordon and he said we could stay in this trailer for just \$300 rent plus we would set up our own utilities. We agreed to this. We then left our items with John and made two trips to New Mexico to fetch our items in the storage bin and returned to Missouri.

May 15th, 2022

Fulton, Missouri has been good. This is a college town and there's a lot of things going on, places to shop. It was a bit of a process setting up the utilities in our name. The floor has big, rotted holes in it. John has been helping us with some things but still we need to fetch water from under the trailer since the pipes are messed up.

June 1st, 2022

We kept getting stuck in the yard with the Mini Cooper, so now we park half on the road and yard at the end of the driveway. John wants money for everything in exchange for helping us. The water is still not flowing from inside faucets or shower.

June 15th, 2022

John is mad at us. Debbie went off on us because John told her that we weren't paying him for gas to bring us places with his SUV. I've paid for his gas, lunch and whatever items we needed every single time! We're leaving to go back to Arizona!

June 21st, 2022

The cabin is being delivered to our land in Sun Valley, Arizona today!

July 2nd, 2022

We arrived back in Arizona on the 2nd and left Missouri on the 1st and stayed one night at the Oyo Hotel in Liberal, Kansas.

Lonnie, the guy whose buying my St. John's land, said we could stay on the land temporarily and also could buy his mother in laws RV for \$600. It didn't run and we didn't have any affordable way to bring it to our new land in Sun Valley, Arizona. The tow company wanted \$700 just to tow it!

July 12th, 2022

I found out that Uncle Bob, my Godfather, had died of a brain tumor. He was 78 and was born on July 31st, 1943.

July 14th, 2022

We just found out that Kristina is pregnant and has been since June 10th! The baby looks like an inside out bellybutton and is bigger than a poppy seed! No heartbeat yet – that is coming soon!

August 3rd, 2022

We left for Florida and had gotten as far as Fort Stockton, Texas. We stayed one night at Fort Stockton RV Park. I then decided to head to New York instead.

The drive to New York was shorter than to Florida. NY didn't go well. Booking a campsite at Fahnestock State Park was difficult so we didn't bother even for a night.

We went to see my Aunt Jeanie, and she was surprised when she saw me and was on the phone as we walked by her and went to her porch door as she sat in her SUV and said, "Oh shit, Michael is here!" I introduced her to Kristina.

We visited my friend Andy's grave and stopped by my friend Mike's house, but he wasn't home. I had thought of going to Woodstock but ultimately decided to drive back to Arizona. Luckily, we had enough money for gas and food. We had to replace two rear tires on the car.

The baby is 10 weeks old now and we heard its heartbeat at OBGYN and saw him/her.

September 1st to October 2nd, 2022

We got through September for the most part OK. We traded in the Mini Cooper plus \$2800 for a 2002 Jeep Grand Cherokee that ran good for two weeks, but the harmonic balancer and serpentine belt fell off plus with that it overheated. It got towed to Scotty and Son's garage in Holbrook. We were one mile out of town on the ramp to I40E, near Dairy Queen. The garage said the engine was bad, but it wasn't. The pastor of the Baptist church paid the \$140 to the garage to get out of the storage yard. I might be able to fix it.

We're now trapped in Sun Valley and we're looking to leave here but without use of the library, we have very limited phone battery each day to do research with just a simple solar panel for charging our phones.

This Friday the baby is 17 weeks old! Soon we will know if the baby is a girl or a boy. It's about six months before the baby is born.

The baby got toys from wish.com with more to come later.

October 3rd, 2022

I secured a trailer in Tucson AZ for \$500 a month plus electric. I contacted our friend Bill from the Holbrook church, barely on my dying phone and arranged a ride for Kristina and I into town so that we could rent a U-Haul truck. We rented the truck, then headed back to Sun Valley to pack it up with everything from the cabin. Our friend from Tractor Supply came with her mom and took our dog Nikki. Dogs weren't allowed in the trailer park that we were moving to. The pastor stopped by with his wife to give us the \$1500 from the sale of my Jeep Cherokee. Kristina and I went into Holbrook for Chinese dinner then started driving down to Globe, AZ where we stayed the night at a hotel. On our way into Tucson, we ate breakfast at Denny's. The landlord, Al, said we could start moving in when we arrived there. Al showed up a few hours later and we paid him and enjoyed our first night in this vintage small trailer

October 5th, 2022

I found a car dealership that would work with us on payments for a car and we walked over to the dealership and put \$1000 down and got a 2003 Honda Civic. It's not the best but it runs well.

As October turned to November, we explored the Tucson mall. We found amazing pawn shops, game stores, thrift stores, 2 malls, etc. Tucson is overloaded with homeless people. We had a homeless person approach us inside and outside of our nearest Burger King begging for money. We set up our health insurance and doctor appointments.

We found out that the baby is going to be a girl. We're naming her Primrose. Baby Prim is doing good and growing. We bought everything for Prim that we still needed by January.

Tucson has been good and bad for us. When we were off grid, life was simple. Here we have electricity, water, sewer, video games and loads of movies and music and life has issues.

The car is still running but it's low powered and maybe not the safest for the long term.

February 1ST, 2023

I started to consider new places. Hey house, to move us to in spring or summer. I must have my gallbladder out on February 27th. Primrose is growing!

February 10th, 2023

We're limited in our daily activities. Kristina has been using a motorized cart at Walmart. No Primrose yet and she's 35 weeks now.

February 14th, 2023

Kristina had a false alarm at the hospital last week. We thought Primrose was going to arrive. Kristina is 2 to 3cm dilated.

February 24th, 2023

At 6am before we left for the hospital, I (your Daddy) wrote this:

You're being born today, Primrose Joy and I feel so much joy for your arrival, but I also worry for you to be delivered OK since you're coming early at 37 weeks!

Your mom and I ate breakfast at Denny's here in Tucson then we went to the hospital. Mom bought a sleep mask at the gift shop, then we walked upstairs to check in but they weren't ready for us. Your mom was upset and so was I. We walked around the hospital some then when we went back, they checked us in. Mom got her pain shot called an epidural mom then got induced in your comfy water world inside mom was popped and you were soon ready to be born.

Mom pushed for an hour and a half and we saw your dark hair, mom felt it while you were still inside her. You then, primrose joy Lombardi you're welcome to the world into my loving arms as I cut your umbilical cord and you felt life outside the womb for the first time it had taken you a while to give a good cry, but you had your eyes open and fingers gripping ours also. I keep thinking that I can't believe that you're here with us appealed tears of joy rush to my eyes. I love you so much baby girl. Love Daddy

Baby Primrose Joy Lombardi was born at 7:25 PM today. Prim was 5 lbs and 13 ounces.

February 25th, 2023

The hospital will be sending us all home tomorrow. Mom and I have been getting up through the night to change and feed you. I love holding you, Baby Prim and I always tell you that you're my, "pretty girl", "smart girl" and "good girl". Remember this always in your life when I'm not around OK?

Mom has been trying to breastfeed with you with minimal results. The formula we've been using is Similac 360 Total Care and you love it.

March 26th, 2023

Kristina Had a hard first month after Prim's birth because the epidural shot knocked her on her ass. She could barely function and would collapse often when we were out in public. Baby Prim has been doing great! I've been making sure she feeds and sleeps well.

We paid off the balance on a different car, a 2001 Honda CRV, and gave the Honda Civic back to the other dealer. Arizona cuts off my insurance on March 31st. I'm very actively looking for a new place for us to move to in May or June most likely.

April 5th, 2023

I bought us a house Primrose, in Illinois! Your mom and I are very excited. We're leaving on April 30th. Your mom and I never had a house and now us three will for the first time. I'm very excited about this move but a little sad to leave Arizona. It's a long story of how I got here. I'll tell you one day.

May 10th, 2023

Prim, we left Tucson, AZ the last few days of April and drove out to Vandalia, IL to see the house I bought for us. Before we got there, we spent a few days in Liberal, Kansas. That's a pretty nice town or small city. My first favorite town in Kansas is Pratt.

We got to Vandalia and I had to smash the doorknob off the front door of the house for your mom, me and you to get inside. Sadly, the houses floors were all bad and caving in. We decided to go back to Arizona; I wanted to go to Florida but that's for later. We spent nearly \$1000 on the whole Vandalia, IL trip between food gasoline and hotels. When we got back to Arizona, we stayed at Motel 6 in Holbrook, AZ, room 261, for a week while I found an acre of land in Concho, Arizona. We rented a storage bin and a UPS store box for our mail. I saved you from a crazy man in St. John's with dogs and guns in his

house. Your mom shielded you from the dogs while I got you in the car. I will
always protect you my dear Prim.

May 11th, 2023

Tomorrow, the cabin is arriving. It's brown and has a sliding door on one side.

I hope this is good for now.

May 20th, 2023

Our dog, Sweets, brought in a scorpion from outside and it was crawling in the cabin and stung me in the butt. I had to go to the hospital via an ambulance, and we were lucky that a nice lady in Concho gave us a ride home.

May 31st, 2023

We found out that your mom is pregnant! Where we are living is far from town so I'm looking at land in Sanders, Arizona because it seems like a nice town.

June 5th, 2023

I bought us land in Sanders, Arizona and the cabin arrived today! It's green and has a double loft. I plan on building a very strong ladder to the loft.

Sanders is nice. Lots of store choices and the weather feels good.

July 1st, 2023

The summer has been great so far. You're getting so big Primrose, and I take you for walks all the time on our quiet country road. I point out all the little critters, plants and have the best talks with you.

Your first words have been, "da-da" and "seven".

August 1st, 2023

We sell our items at the little market in town, and everyone loves you, Primrose. There's an old-fashioned diner in Chambers and we eat there often.

The new baby is coming along well. Mom has had good and bad days.

September 1st, 2023

The summer is coming to an end quickly here in Sanders. The night times are getting cooler and the daytime is barely 70F now.

October 1st, 2023

I bought us an acre of land in Dateland, Arizona. We're going to go down there for the winter and escape the cold up here. We've been using propane heaters with little luck in keeping them running well. I must protect you Prim!

October 24th, 2023

We arrived in Dateland, Arizona. As soon as we got here last night, your mom got sick and we went to the hospital. The new baby will be a boy and we're naming him Kevin!

October 25th, 2023

It was a strange end to a day! The hospital in Yuma kept your mom and you and I Primrose went down to Dateland to gather the tent and our items and then we went back to the hospital. The hospital then asked me to get your mom some more medicine in the car and I'm so glad that I brought you with me because when we returned inside, the staff wouldn't let us into your mom's room! They kept us waiting for hours and we left and got McDonald's, but they still wouldn't let us in to see her!

I called the nurse hours later and she said that I would be arrested and they would call, Department of Child Services (DCS) to take you. We left Prim and went to California for the night to see friends and to sort things out. The nurse also said not to contact your mom and I don't know why.

October 26th, 2023

I made plans with the pastor at the Baptist church so that we could go to the homeless shelter for one night. We left in AM and got to Holbrook by 9pm. The pastor bought us McDonald's then we went to the shelter for one night.

October 27th, 2023

We went to the cabin in Sanders. There were Christmas presents waiting for you Prim at the doorstep from the local firemen. We sold items at the market and told our friends what happened with your mom and how you and I were alone.

October 31st, 2023

Happy Halloween Prim! We sold some items at the market then slept in the desert down in Globe, AZ where it was warmer. Your mom called. She's coming home. I love you forever Primrose.